

Message Text

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

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FOR FUNSETH FROM S/PRS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: TRAVELLING PRESS REPORTAGE, FRIDAY, APRIL 23

NO. 1

TODAY'S SUMMARY INCLUDES RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTS ON SECRETARY'S PRESS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY, AS WELL AS USUAL TRAVELLING PRESS REPORTAGE.

RADIO (MORNING COVERAGE)

1. CBS RADIO "WORLD NEWS ROUNDUP" (DALLAS TOWNSEND AND BERNARD KALB) --

TOWNSEND: "SECRETARY KISSINGER TODAY IS EASTBOUND OVER THE ATLANTIC HEADING FOR A PART OF THE WORLD IN WHICH KISSINGER ONCE PROFESSED LITTLE INTEREST, BUT WHICH NOW, UNDER THE PRESSURE OF FAST-MOVING EVENTS, INTERESTS HIM EXCEEDINGLY."

KALB: "IT WILL BE KISSINGER'S FIRST OFFICIAL TRIP TO SUB-SAHARA AFRICA -- . . . A DIPLOMATIC SAFARI FILLED WITH UNCLASSIFIED

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OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES. IT WAS THE RECENT SETBACK IN

ANGOLA THAT SUDDENLY CONFRONTED WASHINGTON WITH THE FACT THAT U.S. POLICY TOWARD AFRICA HAS NOT BEEN COMPREHENSIVE BUT RATHER REACTIVE -- A MOVE HERE AND THERE AS CRISES EMERGE. AND KISSINGER SET THE TONE OF HIS TRIP AT HIS NEWS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY WHEN HE SAID HE'S GOING TO AFRICA WITH AN ATTITUDE OF GOODWILL, WITH AN OPEN MIND, AND WITH SOME CONCRETE IDEAS. ONE OF THE MAJOR PROBLEMS OF THE JOURNEY, SO IDENTIFIED BY KISSINGER, IS TO ESTABLISH THE CREDIBILITY OF U.S. SUPPORT FOR MAJORITY RULE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. BUT KISSINGER ALSO DISAGREED WITH RECENT ASSERTIONS OF AFRICAN LEADERS THAT WAR WAS THE ONLY WAY TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVE OF BLACK MAJORITY RULE. REFERRING TO THE PROBLEM OF RHODESIA, KISSINGER SAID THE U.S. HAS SUPPORTED THE RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THAT COUNTRY'S GOVERNMENT AND BLACK LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, ADDING, HE BELIEVES IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE RESULTS BY PEACEFUL MEANS.

KISSINGER ALSO CONFIRMED THAT HE HOPES TO MEET WITH BLACK LIBERATION LEADERS OF RHODESIA IN NEIGHBORING ZAMBIA."

2. WTOP RADIO (LAURA WALTERS)

"SECRETARY KISSINGER HAS PACKED HIS BAGGS AND IS SET TO TAKE OFF FOR A TWO-WEEK TRIP TO BLACK AFRICA, DURING WHICH HE IS GOING TO VISIT SEVEN COUNTRIES. BEFORE STARTING TO PACK, THOUGH, DR. KISSINGER TALKED TO REPORTERS ABOUT HIS TRIP AND ABOUT OTHER FOREIGN POLICY MATTERS. THE SECRETARY SAYS HE WILL MEET WITH BLACK LEADERS FROM RHODESIA IN ORDER TO ASSURE THEM THAT THE U.S. IS NOT TAKING THE SIDE OF THE WHITE RULERS OF THAT COUNTRY. BUT DR. KISSINGER ALSO SAYS THE U.S. IS NO FAN OF WHAT THE SOVIETS HAVE BEEN UP TO IN AFRICA. IN FACT, HE SAYS, THE SOVIET MOVES IN AFRICA RECENTLY HAVE HURT TIES WITH THE UNITED STATES."

SECRETARY KISSINGER: "THE PRINCIPAL ELEMENT IN THE DETERIORATION OF RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION IS SOVIET ACTIONS IN ANGOLA. WE POINTED OUT AT THE TIME, AND WE REPEAT, THAT WE CONSIDER THOSE ACTIONS IRRESPONSIBLE, UNCLASSIFIED

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INCONSISTENT WITH THE PRINCIPLES THAT GOVERN THE CONDUCT BETWEEN OUR NATIONS, AND THE INTRODUCTION OF CUBAN SURROGATE FORCES A VERY DANGEROUS DEVELOPMENT."

WALTERS: "DR. KISSINGER WILL STOP OVER IN LONDON TO TALK WITH L. DEAN BROWN ABOUT WHAT HE'S MADE OUT OF THE CRISES IN LEBANON.

3. ABC RADIO (TED KOPPEL)

SECRETARY KISSINGER'S JOURNEY TO AFRICA IS NO TOURIST SAFARI. HIS TRIP WILL BRING HIM FACE TO FACE WITH AFRICA'S MODERATES AND MILITANTS, AND HIS SPEECH IN ZAMBIA OUTLINING AN OVERALL U.S. POLICY TOWARD AFRICA WILL BE STUDIED BY THE CONTINENT TO DETERMINE THE DEGREE TO WHICH AMERICA SHARES THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE BLACK LIBERATION MOVEMENT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA - - . . . A DIPLOMATIC TOUR THROUGH A CONTINENT THAT HAS BEEN POSTPONED FOR ALL TOO LONG ON AMERICA'S FOREIGN POLICY ITINERARY."

TELEVISION (MORNING COVERAGE)

1. NBC-TV "TODAY SHOW" (VALERIANI) -- "KISSINGER FREQUENTLY USES A NEWS CONFERENCE TO SEND A MESSAGE OR SET THE TONE FOR AN UPCOMING TRIP. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT, BEFORE ANGOLA, U.S. SUPPORT FOR BLACK MAJORITY RULE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA HAD NOT BEEN ALL THAT CONVINCING. BUT IT'S DIFFERENT NOW, HE SAID, AND HE HOPED THE AFRICANS WOULD RECOGNIZE THAT."

SECRETARY KISSINGER: "IT'S NOW UP, IN PART, FOR THE AFRICAN NATIONS TO SEE WITH WHAT ATTITUDE THEY WILL RESPOND. WE WILL CERTAINLY RESPOND WITH AN ATTITUDE OF GOODWILL AND WITH AN OPEN MIND, AND WITH SOME CONCRETE IDEAS WHICH WE ARE PREPARED TO MODIFY, OF HOW THESE OBJECTIVES BOTH IN THE POLITICAL FIELD AND IN THE ECONOMIC FIELD, CAN BE REALIZED."

VALERIANI: "THERE'S NO DOUBT THAT IN THE PAST KISSINGER IGNORED AFRICA, BUT THE RUSSIAN INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA FORCED HIM TO PAY MORE ATTENTION TO IT. SO NOW HE'S UNCLASSIFIED

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GOING TO AFRICA PERSONALLY IN SEARCH OF A CREDIBLE AMERICAN POLICY FOR THAT PART OF THE WORLD."

2. ABC "GOOD MORNING AMERICA" (KOPPEL) -- "SECRETARY KISSINGER HARBORS NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT HIS OWN POPULARITY IN AFRICA. THE SIMPLE, UNVARNISHED TRUTH IS THAT KISSINGER'S INTERESTS IN AFRICAN AFFAIRS LANGUISHED ON THE BACK BURNER UNTIL SOVIET AND CUBAN INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA CAPTURED THE SECRETARY'S ATTENTION. KISSINGER THEREFORE KNOWS THAT AFRICAN LEADERS WILL BE TAKING A SOMEWHAT JAUNDICED VIEW OF THIS GOODWILL TOUR."

SECRETARY KISSINGER: "THE DECISION THAT WILL HAVE TO BE MADE BY AFRICAN COUNTRIES, AS BY US, IS TO WHAT EXTENT THEY WANT TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE PAST, OR TO

WHAT EXTENT THEY ARE WILLING TO TURN TO THE FUTURE. THERE HAVE BEEN PERIODS, FOR EXAMPLE, IN OUR MIDDLE EAST POLICY, WHEN IT WOULD HAVE BEEN EQUALLY CORRECT TO SAY THAT THE UNITED STATES DID NOT PURSUE AN EXTREMELY ACTIVE MIDDLE EAST POLICY. WHEN WE DECIDED THAT THE TIME WAS RIPE TO MOVE FOR WHATEVER REASON, WE BECAME MORE ACTIVE. THE SAME IS TRUE IN AFRICA."

KOPPEL: "IF THERE IS ONE AMERICAN EXPORT, THOUGH, OF WHICH AFRICAN LEADERS HAVE HAD MORE THAN THEIR FILL, IT IS REASSURING RHETORIC. SO KISSINGER WILL BE UNDER CONSTANT PRESSURE TO CONVINCE HIS HOSTS THAT THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO TAKE ACTIONS, EVEN WHEN SUCH MOVES MIGHT BE OPENLY UNFRIENDLY TO THE WHITE REGIMES OF RHODESIA AND SOUTH AFRICA. KISSINGER'S PERSONAL CHARM MAY BE SUFFICIENT TO MAKE BLACK AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS FORGET THE NEGLECT OF THE PAST, BUT IT WON'T BE ENOUGH TO REPLACE PROGRAMS AND ACTIONS FOR THE FUTURE.

3. CBS-TV "MORNING NEWS" (BRUCE MORTON) -- ". . .

KISSINGER TOLD A NEWS CONFERENCE HERE YESTERDAY THAT THE UNITED STATES SUPPORTS THE POLITICAL ASPIRATIONS OF THE BLACK MAJORITIES IN WHITE-RULES RHODESIA AND SOUTH AFRICA. AT THE SAME TIME, KISSINGER REPEATED HIS WARNINGS AGAINST WHAT HE CALLED 'IRRESPONSIBLE ACTIONS' BY THE RUSSIANS IN AFRICA. KISSINGER SAID, 'WE WILL RESIST IRRESPONSIBLE
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ACTIONS OR THE EXPANSION OF SOVIET POLITICAL INFLUENCE BY MILITARY POWER OR THE USE OF SURROGATE FORCES IN AFRICA.' THAT LAST IS PRESUMABLY A REFERENCE TO THOSE CUBAN TROOPS IN ANGOLA.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS THIS MORNING QUOTES U.S. INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS AS SAYING THE CUBANS ARE STILL IN ANGOLA, AND THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO MAJOR MOVE SO FAR TO HELP THE BLACK GUERRILLAS IN RHODESIA."

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